(b) Yes.
(c) Yes.
(d) No. The question of constructing a combined chira and bridge had to be dropped as the benefits anticipated of the work did not justify the incurring of the heavy expenditure estimated for. An alternative proposal *viz.*, putting up temporary earthen bunds annually and constructing a foot bridge of a cheap type, is under consideration.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know at what stage the alternative proposal stands ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar—The proposal for constructing a cheap bridge is being formulated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Can we expect to have the cheap bridge by next year ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—It is too early to make such a promise. It will be noted for consideration of the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan —May I know what the exorbitant estimate is ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—Rs. 9,000.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know how many acres of land could be protected from drought if this chira is put up?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—15 acres of single crop land and 96 acres of double crop land and the income derived by the Government will be Rs. 12.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The Government thought only about the benefits to the Government. Did they ever think about the damage to the tenant in the absence of this Chira ?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—For that an earthen bund is going to be put up there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What will be the approximate cost ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Rs. 100 per year.

Depressed Class Settlements.

89. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of depressed class settlements effected as per Order Ref. 22/1107, dated 15th Thulam 1108 of the Protector of the Depressed Classes?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The Revenue Department is taking steps to assign lands in Chennamangalam to Depressed classes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim—By what time will the steps of the Revenue Department terminate ?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It will be completed very soon. In about 4 or five months.

Loans to individual Co-operative Societies.

90. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether th y have noted the fact of the Madras Government giving direct loans to individual Co-operative Societies ;

(2) whether they intend to copy the advantageous method here ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) Though the system was in vogue in Madras in the initial stages of the movement, it is understood that has been discontinued since.

2. This does not arise in view of answer to sub-division(1).

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—From what source did the Government get this information ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—From the report submitted by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know from what source the Registrar of Co-operative Societies got this ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He knew that even before the question was put.

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